

NEWS RELEASE



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SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - July 21, 2006

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Ronnie Lee Tanner, Jr. pled guilty today in federal court in San Diego, before United States District Judge Jeffrey T. Miller, to an Information charging him with three counts of bank robbery.

According of Assistant U.S. Attorney Anne K. Perry, who is prosecuting the case, Tanner admitted to robbing the Wells Fargo Bank at 1199 Highland Avenue, National City twice in 2005 and once in 2006, each time obtaining between \$800 and \$2000. On March 28, 2006, when Tanner robbed the bank for the third time, a quick-thinking bank employee recognized him from bank photos and began a pursuit. Utilizing the vehicle of nearby bank patrons, the bank employee followed Tanner as he escaped in a taxi. During the pursuit, the bank employee telephoned the National City Police Department, and provided information regarding the bank robber's location. Officers of the National City Police Department subsequently arrested Tanner and turned him over to agents of the FBI, to whom he confessed to the March 28th robbery.

Additional investigation led to the identification of Tanner as the individual who robbed the Highland Avenue bank on two previous occasions.

Sentencing for Tanner is scheduled for November 3, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. before United States District Court Judge Jeffrey T. Miller.

DEFENDANT

Ronnie Lee Tanner, Jr.

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

18 United States Code, Section 2113(a) - Bank Robbery

Maximum penalties: 20 years in custody; \$250,000 fine for each count

AGENCIES

Federal Bureau of Investigation

National City Police Department